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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/625,649	07/22/2003	Jerry Wu		9730
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25859	7590	03/08/2006
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EXAMINER

LEON, EDWIN A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/625,649

Applicant(s)

WU, JERRY



Examiner

Edwin A. León

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12-17 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed December 21, 2005 in which Claims 1, 9 and 12 have been amended, Claim 5 has been cancelled and new Claims 16-17 have been added, has been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi (U.S. Patent No. 5,993,268) in view of Pelosa (U.S. Patent No. 5,362,260). With regard to Claims 1-2 and 9-11, Yamaguchi discloses a cable assembly comprising: an insulating housing (20) defining a cavity (21); a contact (2) received in the cavity (21) of the housing (20), the contact (2) comprising an intermediate portion (Fig. 2), a central contact beam (7) extending from adjacent one end of the intermediate portion (Fig. 2), and a tail portion (part from which 13 protrudes) extending from an opposite end of the intermediate portion (Fig. 2); and a cable (11) terminated to the tail

Art Unit: 2833

portion (part from which 13 protrudes) of corresponding contact (2), the intermediate portion (Fig. 2) having a front end and rear end, the central contact beam (7) having a deflectable and curved contacting portion (Fig. 2) at a free end thereof, the free end being apart from the intermediate portion (Fig. 2) a predetermined distance in a vertical direction. See Figs. 1-5.

However, Yamaguchi doesn't show the housing having a plurality of cavities receiving a plurality of cables and contacts having pair of side contact beams extending from two opposite sides of the intermediate portion, the side contact beams are located between the first and the second curved portions of the central contact beam along a longitudinal direction of the contact, the side contact beams comprise a pair of vertical arms located at opposite sides of the first spring arm and a pair of resilient side arms extending rearwardly from the vertical arms and having connecting portions extending toward each other.

Peloza discloses a similar connector assembly (10, 12) having a housing (12) having a plurality of cavities (14) receiving a plurality of cables (11) and contacts (10) having a pair of side contact beams (40) extending from two opposite sides of an intermediate portion (28), the side contact beams (40) comprise a pair of vertical arms (44, 46) located at opposite sides and a pair of resilient side arms (36) extending rearwardly from the vertical arms (44, 46) and having connecting portions (Fig. 2) extending toward each other. See Figs. 1-5.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the assembly of Yamaguchi by including a pair

of side contact beams extending from two opposite sides of an intermediate portion, the side contact beams comprise a pair of vertical arms located at opposite sides and a pair of resilient side arms extending rearwardly from the vertical arms and having connecting portions extending toward each other as taught in Peloza in order to provide a more effective and resilient engagement between the assembly and a mating male connector.

With regard to Claim 7, Yamaguchi discloses the cable (11) including an inner conductive core (shown in Fig. 1) and an outer insulator (shown in Fig. 1) surrounding the inner conductive core (shown in Fig. 1), the cable (11) having an exposed conductive core (shown in Fig. 1) at one end thereof, and wherein the tail portion (part from which 13 protrudes) comprises two pairs of gripping wings (13) respectively crimped onto the exposed conductive core (shown in Fig. 1) and the insulator (shown in Fig. 1). See Figs. 1-5.

With regard to Claim 8, Yamaguchi discloses the housing (20) being formed with a plurality of latching bosses (22) on a top thereof for being received in a corresponding latching slot (Fig. 3) of a complementary connector. See Figs. 1-5.

4. Claims 3-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi (U.S. Patent No. 5,993,268) in view of Peloza (U.S. Patent No. 5,362,260) in further view of Peterson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,664,969). The combination of Yamaguchi and Peloza discloses the claimed invention as shown above except for the housing defining a pair of channels at upper corners of the cavity, and the vertical arms have a pair of ribs at top ends thereof received in the channels.

Peterson et al. (Figs. 4-5) discloses a similar connector having a housing (12) defining a pair of channels (22) at upper corners of the cavity (16), and a contact (14) having a pair of ribs (48) at top ends thereof received in the channels.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the assembly of Yamaguchi and Pelosa by having the housing defining a pair of channels at upper corners of the cavity, and have a pair of ribs at top ends thereof received in the channels as taught in Peterson et al. in order to prevent movement from the contacts laterally or angularly relative to the housing. (Peterson et al., Column 3, Lines 45-49).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 12-17 are allowed.

The references fail to teach, disclose, or suggest, either alone or in combination, plural pairs of vertical channels extending forwardly from a rear face of the housing and plural pairs of horizontal slits extending forwardly from the rear face of the housing and in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claim.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

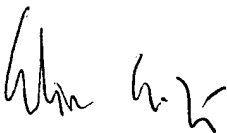
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (571) 272-2008. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800, extension 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2833

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Edwin A. Leon
AU 2833

EAL
February 27, 2006

TRUONG NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

